



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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Families to Celebrate Reunification at June 24 Hall of Justice Event

What: Michigan Reunification Day, which is a part of the American Bar Association's annual Reunification Month celebrations, recognizes the important accomplishments of parents, and the many professionals who support them, in having their children safely and successfully returned home from foster care.

The Reunification Day luncheon and program is sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) Child Welfare Services, Michigan Court Improvement Program, Washtenaw Trial Court, and Cass County Circuit Court Family Division.

Who: Eight Families from Washtenaw and Cass counties, 15 children
Hunter Genia, Welcome Drum Song, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Justice Bridget M. McCormack
Honorable Timothy P. Connors, Washtenaw County Trial Court
Honorable Susan L. Dobrich, Cass County Circuit Court Family Division
Honorable Laura L. Baird, Michigan Judges Association President
Honorable Robert J. Butts, Michigan Probate Judges Association President
Honorable Melissa L. Pope, Chief Tribal Court Judge, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi and Homer A. Mandoka, Former Tribal Council Chair
Stacie Bladen, Department of Health and Human Services Deputy Director of the Children's Services Agency

Where: Michigan Hall of Justice Colonnade

When: June 24, Noon – Luncheon, magician, face painting, games, and activities for children
12:30 p.m. - Remarks begin

Why: The goal of Michigan Reunification Day is to reunite children with families, and recognize the vital role that community partners play in helping to strengthen, support, and make it possible for families to stay together. Washtenaw County Trial Court Judge Timothy P. Connors and Cass County Circuit Court Family Division Judge Susan L. Dobrich will present families and partners. Parents will share successful reunification stories.

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